

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of displaying management information related to managed resources,
each resource having at least one object, each object having associated attribute and task
5 information, the method comprising:

receiving a request to display object information;

retrieving attribute and task information, the attribute information and the
task information originating from different resources; and

displaying the attribute information and the task information.

10 2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the task information is static task
information applicable to each object of a predetermined type.

15 3. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the attribute information and the task
information are displayed in a window of a web browser.

4. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the attribute information relates to an
instance of an object.

20 5. A method as defined in claim 4, wherein the act of receiving a request to display
object information comprises receiving a request to display information related to two or
more instances of an object.

6. A method as defined in claim 5, wherein the act of displaying task information displays static task information applicable to each of the two or more instances of an object.

5 7. A method as defined in claim 5, wherein the method further comprises:

requesting dynamic task information related to a first instance of the two or more instances of an object;

requesting dynamic task information related to a second instance of the two or more instances of an object;

10 determining what dynamic task information relates to the first and the second two or more instances of an object; and

displaying the dynamic task information that relates to the first and second instances of the two or more instances of an object.

15 8. A method as defined in claim 5 further comprising:

receiving a request to display task information related to at least two instances of an object;

retrieving related task information; and

displaying related task information.

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9. A method as defined in claim 6, wherein the attribute information and the task information are displayed in a module within a window of a web browser; the module including an object pane displaying a list of the two or more instances of an object and

the task pane displaying the static task information applicable to the two or more instances of an object.

10. A method as defined in claim 9, wherein the module further includes a work pane
5 displaying attribute information relating to a single instance of the two or more instances of an object.

11. A method as defined in claim 9, wherein the module further includes a work pane
displaying attribute information related to each of the two or more instances of an object.

12. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein attribute information comprises a
property sheet.

13. A method as defined in claim 12, wherein the static task information applicable to
15 the two or more instances of an object is displayed as a list in the task pane.

14. A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the dynamic task information applicable
to the two or more instance of an object is displayed in a single window.

20 15. A method of displaying management information related to two or more managed resources in a window of a web browser application, each of the two or more resource having an object, each object having associated attribute and task information, the method comprising:

receiving a request to display object information from the two or more
resources;

retrieving attribute and task information from each of the two or more
resources; and

5 displaying the retrieved attribute and task information in the window of
the web browser.

16. A method as defined in claim 15, wherein the retrieved attribute information is
displayed in an object pane in the window of the web browser application.

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17. A method as defined in claim 16, wherein the retrieved task information is
displayed in a task pane in the window of the web browser application.

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18. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the retrieved task information is static
task information and wherein the static task information is displayed as a list in the task
pane.

19. A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the object pane and the task pane are
displayed as windows in a module in the window of the web browser application.

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20. A method as defined in claim 19, wherein the module further includes a work
pane.

21. A method as defined in claim 20, wherein the module further includes a search pane.

22. A method as defined in claim 21, wherein the module is displayed as a window in
5 a workspace in the window of the web browser application.

23. A method as defined in claim 22, wherein two or more modules are displayed as windows in the workspace.

10 24. A method as defined in claim 23, wherein the work space is displayed as a window in a console in a window of the web browser application.

25. A method as defined in claim 24, wherein the console further includes a first zone including one or more tools that are operable to populate the work space.

15 26. A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the console further includes a second zone including one or more tools that are operable to display information related to the two or more resources.

20 27. A method as defined in claim 25, wherein the console further includes a toolbar and a means located within the toolbar for modifying the contents of the console.

28. A graphical user interface for displaying information related to network resource

objects comprising:

a console displaying at least one tool zone and at least one work zone;

at least one module displayed in the work zone;

an object zone displayed in the module, the object zone displaying a list of

5 two or more objects;

a task zone displayed in the module, the task zone displaying a list of one

or more static tasks applicable to each of the two or more objects.

29. A graphical user interface as in claim 28, further comprising a work zone
10 displayed in the module, the work zone displaying information related to one of the
network resource objects.

30. A graphical user interface as in claim 28, further comprising a work zone
displayed in the module, the work zone displaying information related to two or more of
15 the network resource objects.

31. A graphical user interface as in claim 29, wherein the information related to the
one network resource object includes a property sheet.

20 32. A graphical user interface as in claim 29, wherein the information related to the
one network resource object includes a list of property pages.

33. A graphical user interface as in claim 30, wherein the information related to the

two or more network resource objects includes property pages associated with each of the two or more network resource objects.

34. A graphical user interface as in claim 29, wherein the at least one module is
5 displayed in a workspace displayed in the console.

35. A graphical user interface as in claim 33, wherein at least two modules are displayed in the work zone.

10 36. A method of displaying management information related to network resources in a window of a web browser application, each of the network resources having at least one property sheet associated therewith, each property sheet including one or more property pages:

requesting property sheets from two or more of the network resources; and

15 displaying the retrieved property sheets from each of the two or more resources in the window of the web browser application.

37. A method as in claim 36, wherein the act of displaying the retrieved property sheets comprises displaying a list of the property sheets from the two or more resources.

20 38. A method as in claim 36, wherein the act of displaying the retrieved property sheets further comprises displaying a list of the property pages included in one of the property sheets from the two or more resources.

39. A method as in claim 37, wherein the act of displaying the retrieved property sheets further comprises displaying one of the property pages included in one of the property sheets from the two or more resources.

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40. A method as in claim 37, wherein the act of displaying the retrieved property sheets further comprises displaying a property page from each of the two or more resources.

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